

FARMER PROBLEMS BEING SOLVED, SO SAYS MR. HARDING

RESTORING STABILITY

The Necessary Balance Between Selling Price and the Cost of the Consumer is Being Established; Mr. Meyer Will Make Another Trip of Inspection.

Washington, March 8.—Declaration that we are making splendid progress toward dissipation of our agricultural difficulties is made by President Harding in a letter to Eugene V. Meyer, Jr., managing director of the war finance corporation, made public today at the White House.

The President in his letter, which was in reply to one from Director Meyer detailing the work of the war finance corporation, said "cheering" evidence has been presented to show that "we are moving fast toward establishing that necessary balance" between the selling price of the producer and the cost of the consumer. "I think we all recognize," said Mr. Harding, "that when stability, prosperity and confidence shall have been restored to agriculture the country will have progressed far on the way to general resumption of prosperity and activity."

Approval was given by Mr. Harding to a plan that Mr. Meyer make a trip through the agricultural sections of the country surveying the conditions as he did last fall on a trip which took him through California and the Southern States.

AMERICAN IS KILLED

Washington, March 8.—Alexander Mathern an American citizen was murdered at Los Naranjos, State of Vera Cruz on the night of March 5, the state department was advised today by the consul at Tampico. The dispatch stated that the assailants were unknown.

EXPLOSION BLAMED TO SAFE CRACKERS

and Stock of Goods Damaged to the Extent of \$5,000 by Blast.

March 7.—Upward of 100 bags was done to the back of Cummings and located on Cokey road near skirts of the city, early this morning when a dynamite blast, pre- set by safe crackers, completely wrecked the building and the stock of general merchandise contained.

The proprietors of the concern did not make a definite check-up, it is thought that they confined their thievery to a barrel of flour. The lying face down in the structure, and as a result stated whether any were injured. Members of the police believe the loss was that of Edward F. Sands, missing secretary of William D. Taylor, slain film director.

CHAIRMAN THINKS BONUS BILL SURE TO PLEASE FOLKS

PREDICTS PASSAGE

Framers of the Measure Say the Elimination of the Cash Bonus Feature Commends the Bill to the Public, While Opponents Say Service Men Will be Displeased.

Washington, March 8.—After weeks of work and worry the house ways and means committee majority has evolved a soldier bonus bill which it apparently intends to stand pat.

Despite some criticism of the measure in and out of Congress Chairman Fordney and his co-workers believe it will encounter only comparatively feeble opposition in the house unless there is an unexpected reaction among a great majority of the members.

Just what will happen to the bill in the senate appears at this time to be more or less problematical. There the bill will be open to almost unlimited debate, and it is more than probable it will be subjected to changes. Since President Harding advised the house committee to pay the bonus with a sales tax or postpone the legislation, it is expected the sales tax proponents will renew their fight.

Among house members generally there was more discussion about how the President's views of the bill than there was about its probable fate after it left the house.

Framers of the measure appeared to be fairly confident that it would not meet with the executive's disapproval because it removed what they said was the fundamental objection to the cash bonus plan—an immediate drain on the federal treasury.

Some opponents of the measure in the house predicted the bill would be unsatisfactory to both the country and the service men. They contended it would not enable the men to get as much money in three years as under the original cash plans and would inflate credits to the extent of more than half a billion over the period of the bank's loans, thus increasing living cost.

The time of the calling of the bill in the house will not be definitely fixed until after Chairman Fordney returns to Washington from a trip to the Middle West on which he started yesterday.

GENERAL NEWS

The British schooner, Message of Peace, noted rum runner, is still riding at anchor in Wilmington pending the settlement of an attachment served on the vessel for services alleged to have been rendered the master.

The 15-minute trial and acquittal of a French prima donna, who shot her husband, has been followed by a crime wave in Paris. Three wives shot their husbands there yesterday.

The Connecticut state police are investigating the suicide of a man at Warehouse Point, Conn., whose body was found February 19. It is understood the police believe the body may be that of Edward F. Sands, missing secretary of William D. Taylor, slain film director.

When the gigantic steamship Leviathan is reconditioned, it will probably have in it the largest

BIG ROBBER GANG MAKES A GIGANTIC HAUL OF WHISKEY

FROM DISTILLERY CO.

Twenty One Hundred Gallons Were Hauled Away in Trucks and Automobiles, Loot Valued at \$35,000; Band Believed to Numbered Thirteen Members.

Frederick, Md., March 8.—Overpowering three guards and smashing down the doors a gang of liquor robbers believed to have numbered 30, today escaped with 2100 gallons of whiskey from the warehouse at Burkettville near here of the Outerbridge Horsey Distillery Co., Inc.

The value of the liquor stolen was represented at \$35,000. The whiskey contained in the barrels was loaded into three trucks and several automobiles. One of the trucks containing 17 barrels was later found several miles from the warehouse the robbers having been forced to abandon it after an accident.

WEATHER.
For North Carolina, fair tonight, Thursday increasing cloudiness probably followed by rain in extreme west portion, not much change in temperature, diminishing northwest and west shifting to east winds.

MARKETS

COTTON.
New York, March 8.—Cotton futures opened steady: May 18.30, July 18.08, Oct. 16.72, Dec. 16.53.

New York, March 8.—The cotton market showed renewed steadiness today owing to reiterated complaint of delayed farm work in the south. There was scattered local selling and some selling of October believed to be for Japanese accounts but the offerings were quite readily taken and active months sold about 12 to 18 points net higher with May selling at 18.08 and July at 17.37.

N. Y. COTTON OPENED
Mar. 18.30-B, May 18.08, July 17.36, Oct. 16.78, Dec. 16.53-B.

N. Y. COTTON CLOSED
Mar. 18.35, May 18.20, July 17.49, Oct. 16.85, Dec. 16.66.
Very strong.

12 O'CLOCK MARKET
Mar. 18.32-B, May 18.10, July 17.34, Oct. 16.74-B.
Spots, Wilson market 16 1-2c.

LIVERPOOL OPENED
Mar. 10.10, May 10.06, July 9.99, Oct. 9.73.

LIVERPOOL CLOSED
Mar. 10.30, May 10.22, July 10.11, Oct. 9.76.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE
Sterling 435 1-2, Francs 8.89, Lire 491 1-2, Marks 38 3-4.

CHICAGO GRAIN OPENED
Wheat, May 1.41 3-8, July 1.19.
Corn 62 7-8, July 65 7-8.
Oats, May 41 1-4, July 42 3-4.

CHICAGO GRAIN CLOSED
Wheat, May 1.42 1-8, July 1.20 1-4.
Corn, May 64, July 64 1-4.
Oats, May 41, July 43.

WANT BURTON AND SMOOT TAKEN OFF DEBT COMMISSION

CONSTITUTION PROVIDES THAT NO

Senator or Representative Shall During His Term of Office be Appointed to any Civil Office Involving any Emoluments.

(By David Lawrence.)
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Washington, March 7.—Sometimes the American Constitution is changed by amendment, and sometimes its meaning is developed by legal interpretation. President Harding and the Senate are in the midst of a controversy which may result in an unwritten amendment to the Constitution and may vitally affect the constitutional system in the future.

A sub-committee of United States Senators has just ruled that President Harding's appointees to the Allied funding commission, namely Senator Smoot of Utah and Representative Burton of Ohio, are ineligible to hold office on that commission because of a constitutional provision which reads as follows:

"No Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time."

The sub-committee holds that the appointment of Senator Smoot and Representative Burton is to a "civil office" which has been created during the term for which they were elected.

Legal opinions galore are being quoted on both sides of the question and when Attorney General Dougherty went to the Cabinet meeting today, he gave what he termed a "curbstone opinion" to the effect that he believed the office was one which hardly could come within the meaning of the constitution since the action of the funding commission would after all be the action of the President. He admitted however that the fact that both Mr. Smoot and Mr. Burton were named for offices which by act of Congress required confirmation by the Senate did give the impression of a civil office though it probably differed from what the framers of the constitution had in mind.

Senator Brandegee of Connecticut, Republican, joined with Senator Walsh of Montana, Democrat and Senator Overman of North Carolina, Democrat, in the subcommittee report which held Messrs. Smoot and Burton ineligible, while Senator Cummings of Iowa and Sterling of South Dakota, both Republicans, took the other view.

This is not a new question. It came up during McKinley's Administration when Senator Hoar, Republican, argued that Mr. McKinley was wrong in appointing members of the Senate to negotiate a treaty. It was believed at the time that the occasion was a special one and that it would not become a precedent. But instead the McKinley action has been taken as justification for the appointment of Senators Lodge and Underwood to the executive commission which negotiated the treaties at the Arms Conference. There was a dispute at the time as to whether Mr. Harding

PACIFIC TREATY WOULD ESTABLISH POLITICAL SYSTEM

LODGE DESCRIBES

The Anglo-Japanese Arrangement is Declared by the Massachusetts Senator as a Dangerous Element in Government Relations in Far East, Would Terminate It.

Washington, March 7.—Termination of the Anglo-Japanese alliance and substitution of a political system actuated by peace in the Pacific was described in the senate today by Senator Lodge of Massachusetts the Republican leader and a member of the American arms delegation as the main purpose of the four power Pacific pact.

The Anglo-Japanese arrangement Senator Lodge declared was regarded by the delegation as the most dangerous element in this government's relations with the far east.

He asserted if the four power pact with its clause abrogating the alliance failed the naval limitation agreement would also be endangered resulting in the "failure" of the conference.

No entangling commitments are contained in the treaty he asserted and no provision contrary to American traditions. He characterized it as "only an experiment" but added that it was one that must succeed if the United States is to make good in its desire in leading the world toward peace.

MINE WORKERS RATIFY ARTICLE OF ALLIANCE.

Indianapolis, March 8.—The international executive board of the United Mine workers of America today ratified the articles of alliance between the transportation and mine workers unions. The announcement was made by John L. Lewis, international president of the Miners organization. The action it was said was taken by a unanimous vote of members of the board.

Formal notification of the action will be filed with E. J. Mannion, president of the order of railroad telegraphers who is secretary of the alliance it is said.

EASY MONEY NOT AVAILABLE

Washington, March 8.—Approximately 80,000 government employees holding their positions by Presidential order are held to be not entitled to the benefits of the retirement act in an opinion rendered by Attorney General Daugherty and transmitted to the interior department.

Secretary Fall said that out of 8,000 employees who have been retired under the act \$400 had been receiving compensation illegally and upon receipt of the attorney general's ruling an order was issued that no more certificates for payment be issued.

FORMER OFFICIAL SKIPS BOND

Birmingham, March 8.—T. C. Dews, former federal prohibition officer, failed to respond to his name when the case of the government against Dews and three others charged with killing Curtis Tidmore, Blount county farmer, was called in Federal court and Judge Grubb ordered \$10,000 forfeited.

HE ACCEPTS.
at, March 8.—W.

SNOW HILL MAN ELECTED HEAD OF IMPLEMENT MEN

ELECT OTHER OFFICERS

Mr. L. S. Tomlinson a Member of the Board of Directors; Association Will Join the Eastern Federation; Dr. Taylor Spoke This Afternoon.

The Virginia and North Carolina Implement and Vehicle Dealers Association in session here this morning elected officers for the coming year as follows: President, Mr. F. W. Dixon of Snow Hill; first vice president, Mr. A. D. Starling of Danville, Va.; second vice president, Mr. L. H. Smith, Jr., of Liberty; third vice president, Mr. R. F. Dillard of Blackstone, Va.; secretary and treasurer, Mr. T. W. Hoenninger of Richmond, Va. Mr. Mac D. Holliday of Dunn is the retiring president.

Directors elected were as follows, Messrs. L. S. Tomlinson of Wilson, Mac D. Holliday of Dunn, H. E. Mosley of Kingston, W. K. Holt of Burlington, Graves J. Smith of Goldsboro, B. A. Roberts of Chase City, Va., W. T. Tiller of Emporia, Va., and W. L. Wyatt of Raleigh.

The Association this morning passed a motion to join the Eastern Federation of Implement and Vehicle men. This Federation embraces every state along the Atlantic coast from South Carolina to Maine.

The address of Dr. W. E. Taylor of Moline, Ill., was the chief event of the afternoon's session.

MISS BATTS SICK.
Friends of Miss Bertha Batts regret to learn that she is confined to her home by illness.

JUDGES WILL NOT PAY INCOME TAX

Supreme Court Handed a Decision in Case Set by Judge Long of State

Raleigh, March 8.—The Supreme Court of North Carolina cannot state income tax to the Supreme Court handed down today.

The court's case sent up by the State of North Carolina, asked for a decision ruling that a pay income tax on salaries of judges protected by provision which tries of judges during the term elected.

SOUTHERNER

Washington, March 8.—Members of the Alabama delegation before the committee and Oliver, Bank Alabama, acceptance purchase is proposed.